

NEVADA COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Minutes of Special Meeting

August 10, 2005

A special meeting of the Nevada County Transportation Commission (NCTC) was held on Wednesday, August 10, 2005, in the Grass Valley City Council Chambers, 125 East Main Street, Grass Valley, California. The meeting was scheduled for 8:30 a.m.

Members Present: Kerry Arnett (alt), Nate Beason, *Tim Brady, Patti Ingram, Josh Susman, Robin Sutherland

Members Absent: Russ Steele, Conley Weaver

Staff Present: Dan Landon, Executive Director; Nancy Holman, Administrative Services Officer

Standing Orders: Chairman Ingram convened the Nevada County Transportation Commission meeting at 8:30 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

ACTION ITEM:

1. Approve Transportation Enhancement Activities (TEA) Funds in the amount of \$208,553 for the Combie/Magnolia Road Multipurpose Path Project.

Commissioner Arnett moved to approve Resolution 05-36. Commissioner Beason stated he voted in favor of this project at the Board of Supervisors the day before.

Executive Director Landon explained why it was necessary to call a special meeting for this action item. He explained that there are two actions required for federal funding for transportation enhancement projects. The first is to obligate the money and the second is to expend the funds within a certain time period. The Nevada County Department of Transportation and Sanitation (DOTS) had money obligated and expended for some preliminary engineering on the Combie Road Multipurpose Path project. Due to a right-of-way conflict, DOTS couldn't obligate the rest of the money, \$71,000. The Bear River Park and Recreation District (BRPRD) had received \$137,000 of grant funds to improve the Overland Emigrant Trail. Their money was obligated, but residents along the trail alignment claimed BRPRD had not proved their easements, so they could not expend it. If the money for the DOTS project was not obligated by October 30th, they would lose the money and it would potentially go to another jurisdiction within the state. If the BRPRD did not expend their money by July 2006, the money would lapse.

*Commissioner Tim Brady arrived.

Staff from NCTC, DOTS, BRPRD and Caltrans met to discuss options available to protect the money. If the two projects were combined to get a new project, DOTS could then obligate their \$71,000 toward engineering for the new project. The BRPRD agreed to deobligate their funds for the Overland Emigrant Trail project and reobligate them for the multipurpose path, which would serve their sports facility located between the two schools on Magnolia Road. This process provides DOTS a new time line to hopefully resolve their right-of-way issue and finish the Combie Road Multipurpose Path at some time in the future.

Executive Director Landon stated there really was nothing else that could be done with the money; it was a "use it or lose it" situation. He asked the Commission to support the new project so it could be forwarded to Caltrans for the funds to be obligated.

Commissioner Beason seconded Commissioner Arnett's motion to adopt Resolution 05-36 approving the new TEA-funded Combie/Magnolia Road Multipurpose Path project. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director Landon noted for the record that Supervisor Sue Horne had sent a letter to the Commission expressing her support for the project and had requested the Commission approve it. He also stated Harriet McKay, a citizen of Nevada City, had called the office and requested that her support for this project be on record.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The following is a synopsis of Commissioner Sutherland's statements to the Commission regarding some of her concerns:

1. The need for a more definitive Trails Plan for District 4 to address the large areas of land designated as potential areas for public use; the need for safe paths for bicyclists to ride to and from local schools; and the desire of constituents to incorporate plans for equestrian trails into new developments when feasible.
2. Find a way to acquire a specific piece of property located in North San Juan to use for parking spaces in efforts by Commissioner Sutherland and residents to enhance or beautify the area.

Executive Director Landon stated he would talk to DOTS staff regarding these two matters.

3. People are driving directly off of Highway 20 onto the Deadman's Flat area creating their own offramp to access private properties. Commissioner Sutherland would like to know what the process would be for planning an interchange at that location.

Executive Director Landon responded that Caltrans had designated the overcrossing as access-controlled and that he would research what would need to be done to install ramps.

A Commission discussion ensued regarding Commissioner Sutherland's comments.

Executive Director Landon noted he had sent an email notifying the Commissioners that the Board of Supervisors and the City of Grass Valley had scheduled a joint meeting to discuss local traffic concerns and invited the NCTC board and staff to participate on August 15th at the Center for the Performing Arts at 7:00 p.m.

Executive Director Landon also noted that at the NCTC May meeting held in Truckee, the Commission had deferred action on the Regional Transportation Mitigation Fee (RTMF) program. Staff met with representatives of the Nevada County Contractors' Association and reviewed their concerns with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Executive Director Landon stated that

members of the TAC, recognizing that the concerns will take a long time to be resolved, has asked the Commission to hold a special meeting later in the month to review the updated mitigation fee program to keep it moving forward. He asked the Commission if they would like to hold a special meeting August 24th or discuss the program at the regularly scheduled meeting on September 21st.

A Commission discussion ensued regarding possible meeting dates and the need to move the RTMF update forward.

Commissioner Brady made a motion to defer the RTMF update to the September 21st meeting. Commissioner Beason seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

SCHEDULE FOR NEXT MEETING:

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21, 2005 at 8:30 a.m., at the Grass Valley City Council Chambers, 125 East Main Street, Grass Valley.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Commissioner Arnett moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Brady seconded the motion. Chairman Ingram adjourned the meeting at 8:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: _____
Nancy D. Holman, Administrative Services Officer

Approved on: _____

By: _____
Patti Ingram, Chairman
Nevada County Transportation Commission